

MURRUMBATEMAN PRIORITIES (Feb 2025)

REGIONAL ISSUES	Cost estimate	Need & history
No.1 Barton Highway duplication & Murrumbateman bypass	Subject to Federal & State funding	<p>Major national road corridor for region. Need to accelerate completion of duplication, particularly bypass Murrumbateman stage, currently a choke point with high safety risk. Speed reduction measure to 80K does not alleviate safety risk. Traffic accidents, fatalities & injuries, have long term impacts upon community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duplication project needs to incorporate a strategic cycleway corridor. • Bypass stage sooner will provide saving in the long term • Critical to keep pressure on State & Federal Governments for funding • Provides certainty for region's growth & master planning.
No 2 Future provisions for the Yass hospital to 2036	Subject to Federal & State funding	<p>High priority for towns & villages of Yass Valley. Specialist & community services limited or not currently available within the local region.</p> <p>Alleviates travel delay for serious health matters & reduces impact on ACT health system</p>
No.3 Emergency services infrastructure	Subject to Federal & State funding	<p>Urgent requirement with growth in region. Climate change impacts & natural disasters on the increase. Inefficiency in current depot locations pose delays & risks to community. Co-locate SES depot, emergency response, police service etc infrastructure in Murrumbateman.</p>
No 4 Yass water treatment plant upgrade	Federal-State grant \$36.2M announced 2024	<p>Town water - specifically required for Yass town housing developments growth & future Murrumbateman expansion. Murrumbateman village core on town water fed from Yass River source pipeline to reservoir next to cemetery (services about 267 households with capacity to for additional 600, but more pipeline infrastructure required). Cost to Council for development infrastructure can be prohibitive</p> <p>Community sceptical that Yass River source will never be high quality. Water from ACT is considered the only solution for water security & high quality. Further growth in this region cannot occur without water from ACT.</p>
No 5 Protect rural character & lifestyle	All governments Policy implementation	<p>Consistent approach & sensitivity required to ensure that development only occurs in suitable locations that does not impact high environment values, cultural & heritage, or rural landscapes. Development should not increase pressure on recreation, infrastructure or services. Murrumbateman is attractive because of its rural character & lifestyle, but it is being threatened.</p>

LOCAL ISSUES	Cost est.	Need & history
NO 1 Masterplan for Murrumbateman	\$1-200,000+	<p>No Murrumbateman masterplan means development does not reflect social & recreational needs of the growing population. Intermittent subdivision developments are being approved detrimental to protecting local character & liveability, constraining rural industry growth. Yass Valley Council (YVC) limited strategic planning & funding for project north Murrumbateman Urban Release Area.</p> <p>Extensive masterplan process/consultations done in 2012 – but not adopted by YVC, only one page structure plan approved is out of date with current planning innovations.</p> <p>A masterplan is the bottom line for development/recreation/building/rebuilding; important to have improvement community facilities; crucial for forward resource planning.</p> <p>Recommendations in 2024 YVC Open Space Strategy need to be implemented.</p>
NO.2 Pathways, pedestrian/cyclist safety. Road safety, traffic flow, local roads, parking. Safe crossing for Barton Highway/East St	Various	<p>Pathways for pedestrians/cyclists required in village core & outlying residential areas. Primarily for safety and to improve neighborhoods, health, environment, reduce vehicle use & congestion. Pathways & road verges must be safe for pedestrian/cyclist access. Many streets and verges not safe, have drainage issues - urgent to remediate North, Rose, Middle, Camp, West & South Streets, Colonial Place.</p> <p>YVC Bike Plan & Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP) out of date.</p> <p>Recommendations in 2024 YVC Open Space Strategy need to be implemented; ensure development applications include pathway connections/corridors in proposed subdivisions; more resources required for YVC to make grant applications.</p> <p>Imperative safe crossing required at Barton Highway/East St. High concern for all pedestrians/children/cyclists inability to safely access road to recreation ground. Commitment required for suitable crossing/road safety grant.</p> <p>High safety risks with vehicles speeding on local streets, through roundabouts. Additional measures to slow traffic flows within village core, & more safe parking areas. Hercules St congestion with laneways, parking movements, large vehicles double parking on street. Old village core cross streets not suitable for heavy vehicles.</p> <p>Difficulties traffic turning onto Barton Highway from local streets/roads, even with 40/50/80 speed limits.</p> <p>Possible short-term solution: synchronised traffic light sets at South St & Hercules St, could help access onto Barton while waiting for the bypass.</p>
NO 3 New Community Hall	\$2.5 M+	<p>Plans for new community Hall identified high priority in various YVC Murrumbateman Recreation Ground Strategic Plans. Concept plans developed in 2018, YVC listed Hall as a priority shovel-ready project, April 2021.</p> <p>YVC 2022 assets management plan states ten years before any start. Minimal maintenance being done.</p> <p>Existing Hall used for community & commercial uses – hired out but funds not allocated for ongoing maintenance. Is in fair condition but urgently requires maintenance. New school hall cannot cater for all community needs.</p>
NO 4 Facilities for youth	\$various \$230,000+	<p>Spaces targeted for youth facilities, desperately needed. Highlighted in 2008 MCA/MPA community cultural, recreation masterplan, draft 2012 Murrumbateman Masterplan. Deliver all-abilities level 1 playground.</p> <p>Develop & build other facilities, hang out spaces, all-in-one multi-equipment playing court, skatepark, bmx/pump.</p> <p>Recommendations in 2024 YVC Open Space Strategy needs to be implemented.</p> <p>A Murrumbateman masterplan will assist, open new areas; more youth activities & events</p>

NO 5 Winery Trail completion	\$1 Million+	Winery Trail part-completed, tourism information shows a complete loop. High priority to resolve pedestrian/cyclist safety on McIntosh Circuit between Scrubby Lane & Barton Hwy. Need to complete full trail across Barton Highway, Euroka Ave & Patemans Lane. Integrate with other pathway connections in the area.
NO 6 Restoration of heritage assets	\$500,000+	YVC managed heritage assets not being maintained. Murrumbateman former school & Schoolhouse buildings deteriorating. Outbuildings at Hawthorn property not protected (except for blacksmiths shop). Loss of cultural heritage. Potential use by community, currently not available. Restoration grants limited, require co-contributions.
NO 7 Maintenance of Public recreation & facilities	Various	YVC lack of maintenance, considered core responsibility of YVC needs to be done. Too much reliance on community volunteers to maintain Recreation Ground. Future developments need to deliver additional facilities & ensure maintenance is factored. Implement recommendations in 2024 YVC Open Space Strategy, North Murrumbateman.
NO 8 Retention of waste transfer stations & recycling improvements	Various	Waste transfer stations kept open & upgraded with appropriate equipment/services to take all types of waste. Recycling of waste types essential. Common priority for all Yass Valley villages (some have no YVC household waste services). Community seeks more focus & YVC guidance on recycling of waste.
NO 9 Support community organized event, with profit going to community - Murrumbateman Field Days	\$ Various & in-kind	Event provides major economic & social benefits to community (support & fundraising) over \$100,000 direct to community groups in 2024. More formalised support from YVC eg: sponsorship, promotion, reduction of fees, providing services, presence at the event. <i>Economic impact analysis report on 2023 Field Day:</i> - contributes \$7.4 Million economic activity in Yass Valley (accommodation, food/agri-business sectors) - \$1.1 million is directly spent during the event on-site & in local towns.
NO 10 Wayfinding signage directions	\$ Various	More signage for tourism venues and attractions.
NO 11 VARIOUS SMALLER ISSUES	\$ Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service laneways behind shops Maintenance of laneways & safe entry into Hercules St. Roadside layovers & Murrumbateman Recreation Ground – storage & dumping of waste soil etc becoming commonplace when they are only meant to be for the temporary storage of road repair gravel. Unsightly not good for tourism